

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Before the Examiner
Jeffrey Kozak et al.)
Serial No.: Not Yet Known) Group Art Unit
Filed: January 12, 2004)
ANTERIOR LUMBAR PLATE AND)
METHOD) January 12, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexander, VA 22313

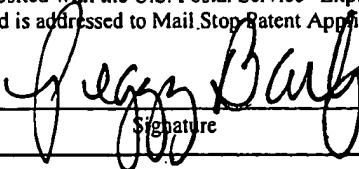
Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the attached patent application, please enter the following amendments prior to computing the required filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EL983134872US

Date: January 12, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addresses" under CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.


Signature